

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 00050 101021Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 AGRE-00 OMB-01 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 /075 W  
-----101023Z 121565 /20

R 100825Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7548  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMCONSUL UDORN  
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0050

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EAGR EALR ETRD PFOR PINS LA VN JA TH  
SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT CONTROL AND COFFEE PRODUCTION IN BOLOVENS  
PLATEAU

REF A VIENTIANE 0006, B 76 VIENTIANE 2929

1. MOST OF THE BOLOVENS PLATEAU REGION IS CONTROLLED  
BY A LAO TEUNG TRIBAL CHIEF, ACCORDING TO A LAO  
BUSINESSMAN WHO TRAVELLED THERE IN NOVEMBER, 1976, TO  
BUY COFFEE. SOURCE TOLD LAO COFFEE AGENT FOR A THAI/  
JAPANESE IMPORT/EXPORT FIRM WHO IN TURN TOLD EMBOFF  
JANUARY 9 THAT NEITHER THE LPDR, NUMEROUS SRV TROOPS,  
NOR LOCAL RESISTANCE FORCES HAVE CONTROL OF THE AREA.

2. SOURCE REPORTEDLY SAID BUYERS FROM THE SRV HAVE  
OFFERED 200 KIP PER KILO FOR BOLOVENS GROWN COFFEE,  
FAR EXCEEDING THE LPDR GOVERNMENT SET PRICE OF 80 KIP  
PER KILO. BUYERS FOR A JAPANESE COMPANY OFFERED OVER  
300 KIP PER KILO.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 VIENTI 00050 101021Z

3. SOURCE ALSO REPORTEDLY SAID THE 1976 COFFEE HARVEST  
WAS NEARLY 2,500 TONS. THIS FIGURE IS IN LINE WITH  
ROYAL LAO GOVERNMENT REPORTED COFFEE YIELDS OF 3,200  
TONS IN 1970, 2,200 TONS IN 1971, 2,300 TONS IN 1972,  
1,100 TONS IN 1973 AND 2,070, TONS IN 1974.

4. COMMENT: THE LACK OF LPDR CONTROL IN THE BOLOVENS  
PLATEAU COULD EXPLAIN A LAO REFUSAL OF HUNGARIAN  
AGRICULTURE EXPERT'S REQUEST TO VISIT LIVESTOCK FARMS  
THERE. (ACCORDING TO BRITISH AMBASSADOR DONALD CAPE,  
THE EXPERT WILL INSTEAD GO TO XIENG KHOUANG.) IT  
COULD ALSO EXPLAIN WHY NO STATISTICS WERE COLLECTED  
FROM THE BOLOVENS REGION FOR LPDR YEAR END PRODUCTION  
WRAP-UPS, AS REPORTED REF B.  
CORCORAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COFFEE, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 10-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977VIENTI00050  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770008-0821  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** VIENTIANE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770165/aaaacews.tel  
**Line Count:** 71  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** f7e5b6db-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3629683  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOVERNMENT CONTROL AND COFFEE PRODUCTION IN BOLOVENS PLATEAU  
**TAGS:** EAGR, EALR, ETRD, PFOR, PINS, LA, VN, JA, TH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/f7e5b6db-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009